High production cost of Rifampicim

@3296. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister oi INDUSTRY be pleased to I refer to answer to Unstarred Question 156 given in the Rajya Sabha en 27th July, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of Rifampicin involves an additional outgo of foreign exchange fo the extent of dollar 59/kg;

(b) whether it Is also a fact that import price of Rifampicin is Rs. 150 per kg. arid for producing 1 kg. of drug from intermediates <j; 209 are being spent;

(c) whether the Phenomenon of over-invoicing and overcharging of price. to the detrimerft of the T.B. patients, had been going on for the last two yeans;

fd) what are the approved priees of Ril'ampicin plus INH capsules and Rifampicin 600 mg. per capsule and what prices are being charged by the companies; and

(e) what steps have been taken to fix the responsibility in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c)
The price of Rifampicin bulk drug was fixed at Rs. 3098 per kg in October 1986 based on the recommendations of BICP and was subsequently reduced to Rs. 3000 per kg in Januaiy, 1987 due to fall in prices of intermediates. International prices of bulk drugs and intermediates fluctuate widely from time to time. No specific instance of over invoicing has come to the notice of the Government.

(d) The price fixed under DPCO 1987 for 4 capsules of Rifampicin plus INA (450 mg phis 300 mg) in one case is Rs. 12.01.

(e) In view of the reply given above does not arise.

i® Previously Unstarred Question-2726, transferred from the 17th August, 1988.

i Examination of representations from Small drugs manufacturing units

3297. SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASU-j MATAR1: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) when the examination of the re quests of small scale units for exemption under DPGO, 1987 would start and how i long it would take to accede to (heir i requests;

(b) what are the current prices of I Durabolin, Decadurabolin, Gestan'm, Oraboline, Unionzyme tahlet$_s$ and Trie-| nej-yc, Styptovit Injections;

(c) whether prices of these products I are exorbitant and if so what are the reasons for which his Ministry has not so far intervened; and

(i) when the list of drugs,under price] control would be normally reviewed and whether any institutional arrangements been made for the purpose? '

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Examination of requests of small scale units for exemption from price control DPCO. 1987, has already been started and this is a continuous process.

(b) and (c) As per the provisions of DPCO$_i$ 1987, the manufacturers of non-scheduled medicines are free to revise the prices. However, Govt, is keeping a watch and has intervened wherever found necepsary.

(d) Various representations received in this regard have been forwarded to Kelkar Committee for necessary action.

Production and sale of Benzathine Penicillin

3298. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY *bs* pleaded to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1416 given in the- Rajya Sabha on the 9th May, 1988 and state:

(a) whether his Ministry is monitoring Oxe production of BenZBtbtM Penicillin;